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## CENTRAL AFRICA SINCE THE DEATH OF LIVINGSTONE.

BY THE REV. W. GARDEN BLAIKIE, DD., LL.D., F. R. S. E.

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THE transformation which the part of Africa that Livingstone first brought to light has undergone since his death surpasses anything on a like scale that has ever been witnessed in the short space of four and twenty years. But, indeed, we may say, in one sense, the transformation which the whole continent of Africa has undergone; for however far it may have been from his intention, it was Livingstone indirectly who set in motion that unprecedented machinery that within the last dozen years has divided the Dark Continent among most of the leading powers of Europe. It would be out of the question within the limits of an article to attempt a full narrative of this great chapter of African history; we shall notice it only in so far as it is necessary to explain the present position of that part of Central Africa with which the name of Livingstone is specially connected. The river Shiré and the lakes were emphatically Livingstone's domain. It is here that the transformation has been most remarkable. Within this region in particular, exploration, geography, natural science, commerce, the suppression of the slave trade, missionary enterprise, and social improvement have all made wonderful progress since the intrepid missionary passed away, on May 1, 1873, on the swamps of Lake Bangweolo.

Livingstone was like Samson; he did more by his death than by all the efforts of his life. That picture of the weary, wornout man, found dead in the attitude of prayer in the rude hut beside Chilambo's village, thrilled the civilized world, and roused its noblest energies. It is rather difficult to put Livingstone's character together. That he was a true missionary at heart is be-

yond doubt, and that he held the Gospel to be the chief instrument of transforming the country in all its great interests; but it is equally certain that he was fascinated by the geographical problem, and that it was for the solution of that problem that he wandered so long in the region where he died. But he never lost sight of the missionary aim, and, apart altogether from the geographical problem, he felt that in becoming thoroughly acquainted with the infamies of the slave trade which he saw there in all its hideousness, and thus becoming fitted to expose it when he should return home, he was doing a service more than worthy of his highest energies. He was bent on finding the sources of the Nile, but unfortunately he was on the wrong tack. Had he been able at Nyangwé to get the means of exploring the Lualaba River, he would have done what Stanley did afterwards—sailed down the river, and found that its connection was not with the Nile but with the Congo. Of this he had some vivid surmises; but without proof positive, he could not abandon his first impression. Dean Stanley had good cause to place the lines over his remains in Westminster Abbey:

“Tantus amor veri, nihil est quod noscere malim  
Quam fluvii causas, per sæcula tanta latentes.”

But he had equal reason to add the words which were the key, not to a mere part, but to the whole scope and aim, of Livingstone's life :

“Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also must I bring, and they shall hear my voice.”

It was on September 16, 1858, that Livingstone, sailing up the River Shiré, discovered Lake Nyassa. From the very first he was convinced that the valley of the Shiré and Lake Nyassa was the key to Central Africa. The experience of nearly forty years has verified that impression. In imagination he saw the great object of his Zambesi expedition accomplished. He saw the valley dotted with British colonies and mission stations and trading settlements; he saw the slave trade superseded by lawful commerce, the natives transformed into intelligent, industrious laborers; the whole valley blossoming as the rose. Alas, much was to happen, the thermometer was to fall to zero, before this could be realized. The next few years were to be a season of heartbreaking disappointments; every effort was to result in at

least temporary failure ; so that fifteen years later, at the death of Livingstone, the prospect was darker than ever. The slave trade was carried on more widely and cruelly ; the Universities' Mission, under Bishop Tozer, had left the continent and established its headquarters in the island of Zanzibar ; and the Free Church of Scotland after sending out Mr. Stewart (now Dr. Stewart, of Lovedale) to reconnoitre, had found that the country was too unsettled for any mission to be established then on the banks of Lake Nyassa. If ever there was a forlorn picture on earth it was that of Livingstone, after his expedition had been recalled by the British government ; after finding that the slave raiders were the only party that had benefited by his discoveries ; after nearly all his countrymen had for one reason or another left him ; after all the depressing effects of illness, and of worries, delays and disappointments without number ; after finding that the ship he had bought with his own money could not be turned to use on the lake—persevering, nevertheless, in exploring the banks of Nyassa, although it could only be by the weary process of trudging on foot ; pressing on as far as he could go until compelled to turn to look after the vessel he had got from the government ; and finally leaving the lake, from which he had hoped so much, just as he found it, without a single missionary on its banks, without a single white merchant on its heights, the slave trade more active than ever, and misery, strife, darkness, and disorder holding their unmitigated reign.

When he returned to Nyassa on his last expedition he found no improvement, and he was not able to effect any. In the interest mainly of the geographical problem he pushed westward, becoming acquainted with Lake Tanganyika, and discovering lakes Moero and Bangweolo. Finding him at Ujiji in much the same plight as the traveller in the parable of the good Samaritan, Henry M. Stanley, on the part of Mr. Bennett of *The New York Herald*, rescued him from rags and starvation. It was a noble service, romantic in its origin, most loving and fraternal in its execution. The three months which these two men spent together had memorable effects. The spirit of Livingstone passed into Stanley in more senses than one. But they had to part ; Stanley to return, having accomplished the purpose for which he was sent out, and Livingstone, in spite of every remonstrance, to finish his work if possible, and find

the sources of the Nile. In reality, it was to end his life, and thereby, as it appeared to human vision, to shut conclusively the door of hope which he had opened for Africa. *Dis aliter visum.*

When Stanley heard of the death of Livingstone, he was seized by an irresistible desire to finish the work which had been left incomplete. Arriving in London just in time to take part in committing to their resting-place in Westminster Abbey the bones of his friend that had been so marvellously borne from the hut on Bangweolo, he was only strengthened in his resolution. The newspaper reporter was transformed into the intrepid traveller; the youth who had been captivated by the love of adventure, awoke to the responsibilities of life, and entered in a measure into Livingstone's view of its purpose. Under the conjoint auspices of *The New York Herald* and the *Daily Telegraph*, an expedition was fitted out, and Stanley proceeded to Africa with the resolute purpose of exploring the Lualaba, and following its course to the sea.

In the meanwhile, however, another man had been trying to accomplish this very thing, and failed. Lieutenant Verney Lovett Cameron (Commander Cameron, C. B.), who had headed an expedition sent out by the Royal Geographical Society in search of Livingstone, having met at Unyanyembe the band of natives who were carrying his remains to the sea, had resolved to go westward in the same direction, and finish Livingstone's work. An intrepid and skilful traveller, he reached Nyangwé, but there he encountered the very same difficulty that had baffled his predecessor. Nothing could induce the natives to give him canoes, or to aid him in his work. Fear of the consequences to themselves overcame them. When Stanley came to the same place in 1876 it could be little comfort to him to think of the failure of his predecessors. It was a marvellous tribute to Stanley's power of management that he succeeded where they had failed. The story of his ten months' journey down the Congo is one of the most remarkable narratives of adventure ever known, as the results were certainly of unprecedented importance in the history of Africa. He reached the sea in the end of 1877. The publication of his book, "Through the Dark Continent," not only effected a revolution in the realm of geography, but also in the realm of history. The region which he opened

up was of such importance, the basin of the Congo was such a magnificent sphere for commerce, agriculture, and all manner of enterprise, that men's minds were stirred to the utmost, and a host of projects, missionary and commercial, rose above the horizon.

It would have said little for the Christian church if the missionary aspect of the discovery had not immediately arrested attention and been followed by corresponding activity. And the history of missionary enterprise on the Congo during the last twenty years is a remarkable record—a record involving numberless instances of early death, through ignorance or inattention, no doubt, in many cases ; but in the readiness of men and women to take the place of those who had fallen it showed in a most interesting way that the spirit of heroism had not died out in the nineteenth century, and that Livingstone's example had not been in vain.

But it is in other directions we are to look for the most far-spreading effects of Stanley's enterprise. Even before he had left Nyangwé the attention of Leopold, King of Belgium, had been eagerly turned to Africa and to the best means of promoting the civilization of the continent, and opening it up to the commerce, industry, and scientific enterprise of the civilized world. For the consideration of this subject he had summoned an international conference to Brussels, which met on September 12, 1876, and resulted in the formation of an International African Association.

King Leopold was profoundly interested in Stanley's letters from the Congo, and at the earliest possible moment invited him to Brussels, and discussed with him in full his plans for the settlement of the country. Afterwards members of the International Association were invited to a conference, and a committee was formed for the investigation of the Upper Congo. Capital was subscribed to enable the committee to carry out its objects. In 1878 Stanley's book, "*Through the Dark Continent*," was published, and gave an immense impetus to the project of King Leopold. In 1879 Stanley returned to the Congo, under the auspices of the King and his associates, and took the main part in the formation of the Congo Free State. It is unnecessary in this place to detail the steps connected with the development of this project, which ended in making Leopold virtually

the head of the Congo State, and placing it under his administration. He had been the mainspring of the whole movement; he had contributed immense sums from his own purse towards it; he was willing to incur great responsibilities in connection with it, and, being the King of a very small European state, he could not become the object of that jealousy which would have been felt had any of the great powers of Europe been invested with the control. The arrangements of the Congo Free State were made at an international conference held at Berlin in 1884-85.

What may be the final outcome of the Belgian Congo State is far from certain. Rumors of maladministration have of late been very rife. Belgium has had little or no experience in colonial administration, or in the management of foreign races. Whether she may succeed in establishing a settled government, or whether she may have to make way for some stronger power, or whether the Congo State may break up into a number of smaller states, are all questions which the future must determine.

What is of special moment for our present purpose is that, in thus making herself mistress of the Congo State, Belgium began that great game which has issued in the partition of nearly the whole of Africa among European powers. Her example proved very infectious. Let us now briefly state what has been done in the same direction by France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, and last, not least, by Great Britain.

It is no wonder that France should have been powerfully moved by the opening up of the African continent, because of late years she has shown a strong desire to become a great colonial power. The conquest of Algeria, begun in 1830, cost much bloodshed, and, it is said, a hundred and fifty millions sterling. Much has been done to civilize the country; but it is not a very desirable colony.

In 1881 France took possession of Tunis. France from early times had a hold of Senegambia, on the west coast. Of late years she has contrived to enlarge greatly the area over which her influence extends. She long cherished an eager desire for the control of the whole region of the Niger, and in the Upper Niger her authority has been firmly established; but on the Lower Niger her ambition has been frustrated, chiefly through the efforts of Sir George Goldie, who succeeded in getting a royal

charter for the Niger Company of England. A few scattered settlements on the west coast are under the French flag. But her greatest acquisition on the continent of Africa is the very extensive region known as French Congo, adjacent to the Congo Free State, between the right bank of the river Congo and the sea. The acquisition of this territory she owed mainly to an Italian named De Brazza, who, leaving Europe in 1879 under pretence of promoting the objects of the International Society, induced certain chiefs to make treaties favorable to France. Mr. Stanley and the King of the Belgians were annoyed at his proceedings, which, in reality, broke up the International Society and left each power to scramble for itself. Of the French seizure of Madagascar we do not take note, because it is the partition of the continent we have to do with.

Increase of appetite, as the poet says, grows by what it feeds on ; and when Bismarck had created the empire of Germany, the ambition arose to make her a great colonial power. She had some small settlements in Africa from an early period, and there were German African Colonial societies ; but 1884 witnessed the beginning of her active zeal to obtain new colonies. Before that year German merchants had stations along a large tract of the west coast, and German missionaries occupied about a hundred stations. We say nothing of the manner in which Germany went to work, and in which she dealt with British interests in part of the region. There was a long and sharp correspondence between the foreign offices of the two countries, which ended in Britain's giving way to Germany.

Similar proceedings went on thereafter on the east coast. Attention had first been called to the region near Zanzibar by an eminent German explorer, Von der Dacken (1860-65), who lost his life while exploring the river Juba. In 1894 Dr. Karl Peters, who had gone without government authority into the country, negotiated certain treaties with native chiefs, and then transferred the rights thus obtained to the German African Society. Again the interests of Britain appeared to be trifled with, and again she acted a conciliatory part. The result was that another huge slice of African territory was placed under German influence, bounded roughly by Lake Victoria Nyanza on the north, Lake Tanganyika on the west, and the British and Portuguese spheres on the south.



Portugal was certainly one of the earliest colonizers of Africa, and of that fact she tried hard to avail herself. On the strength of what had been done by early travellers and traders, she claimed a vast trans-African empire, extending from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. On the strength of traditions equally vague and questionable, she claimed the Nyassa region which Livingstone had discovered, and which he destined as the centre both of commercial and missionary work. Lord Salisbury, who was thought to have been rather complacent to Germany, took up a very firm attitude with Portugal. The Berlin Conference had laid it down that no country could claim any part of Africa of which it was not in actual possession, and this resolution quashed wholesale many of the claims of Portugal. Yet two great tracts fell to her possession, the Angola Colony on the west and a strip along the coast from Zululand to Cape Delgado on the east. The Nyassa region (of which we are to speak presently) was specially reserved for a British protectorate.

Of the Italian portion of Africa in the neighborhood of Abyssinia we need not write in detail, for hitherto it has brought little but disaster to Italy, and it is doubtful whether Italy will be able to colonize it or, indeed, to occupy it to any practical purpose.

And now we come to Great Britain. Of her early colonies on the west coast, and of her great colony, the Cape of Good Hope, on the south, and Natal on the southeast, we need not speak, because they remain as they were. We have already adverted to her success on the lower Niger, by which she frustrated the aim of France to possess a vast African empire, extending from the Mediterranean to the Congo. But the chief acquisitions of Great Britain in recent years have been in the southern and eastern sections of the continent. In regard to the south, we have no space to narrate all the events that led ultimately to the extension of the region under British influence as far north as the river Zambesi. Agreements were made with the chiefs, who professed their desire to come under British protection. The Transvaal Republic and the Portuguese nation were extremely desirous to obtain parts of these lands, and the efforts of Great Britain were no doubt quickened by the certainty that if she did not obtain them, some other country would. By and by, Mr. Cecil Rhodes came on the field, and by him and others Mashonaland and Mata-

beleland were prospected, with a view to the working of gold mines. After delay and difficulty, a charter was granted to the British South African Company, under whose control that vast region now is, and which has recently become so notorious in connection with Dr. Jamieson's attempted raid on the Transvaal.

We now come nearer to that part of Africa with which the name of Livingstone is specially connected, and the present condition of which it is the main object of this paper to describe. But a brief historical introduction is still necessary. It is a wonderful proof of Livingstone's influence that as soon as he passed away very vigorous efforts were made from many quarters to establish agencies for the moral and commercial improvement of the Lakes District. It is necessary to remember that other lakes besides those of Livingstone had been discovered in the neighborhood. Speke had discovered the Victoria Nyanza; Speke and Butler, Tanganyika, and Baker the Albert Nyanza. On his way to explore the Lualaba and the Niger, Stanley had made a survey of the Victoria Nyanza, and had become acquainted with King Mtesa, of Uganda, and ascertained his willingness to have Christian missionaries sent to his people. When he wrote to England he pressed the desirableness of occupying Uganda as a mission sphere. Without any definite provision for protection, the Free Church of Scotland in 1875 established its Livingstonia Mission on the banks of Lake Nyassa; next year the Established Church of Scotland took possession of a district in the Shiré Highlands, which it named Blantyre, after Livingstone's birthplace; the Church Missionary Society commenced work in Uganda, whither a Roman Catholic body of missionaries was sent subsequently. The London Missionary Society in 1877 found a field at Tanganyika; and the Universities Mission returned in 1882 to the district it had formerly occupied, between Lake Nyassa and the sea. The Moravians, the Berlin Society, and other bodies, likewise commenced missionary work. In Livingstone's idea, Christianity and commerce were always united, for without a thriving legitimate commerce he could not get rid of the slave trade; but it was undesirable that missionaries should combine the two avocations; hence the African Lakes Association was founded by some friends in Glasgow, to work as a trading company in connection with the Scotch missions. But it was not to be expected that, settling among wild bar-

barians, all these agencies would be able to carry on their work without molestation and serious opposition. They might be implicated in the feuds of the tribes ; or they might get into trouble by their horror at the slave trade and their irrepressible desire to help the miserable slaves ; or some jealous chief might fall on them in his fury, and literally annihilate them. In the neighborhood of Lake Nyassa great trouble was caused by the Arab slave-traders, and in that of Victoria Nyanza by the persecuting fury of King Mwanga, the son and successor of Mtesa. The African Lakes Company had to fight with the Arabs for their lives ; in the course of the wars their managers, John and Frederick Moir, were both seriously wounded, and the whole company was in danger of extinction. The atrocities of King Mwanga are well known. The Uganda martyrs, braving not death only, but nameless tortures, behaved like heroes ; the murder of Bishop Hannington was an infamous crime, and it seemed not unlikely to be followed up by the murder of every white man in the kingdom. Then there were internal feuds between the natives and the Mohammedans, and between the Protestants and Roman Catholics ; at one time Mwanga had to fly ; then he returned ; Uganda was like a volcano. The British government was appealed to by the missionaries for protection ; naturally it was very unwilling to interfere where it had no proper jurisdiction ; but the memory of Livingstone, the sacredness of the cause and the atrocious treatment of British subjects at last overcame its reluctance.

But here it is necessary to explain the relations in which Britain now stood to the region governed by the Sultan of Zanzibar, and to the lakes in particular. There were old and intimate commercial relations between Britain and Zanzibar. The Sultan was very friendly, and had to a certain extent co-operated with Britain in the suppression of the slave trade. A distinguished and wealthy merchant, very friendly to Christian missions, and to the schemes of Livingstone, afterwards Sir William McKinnon, having, in 1877, as Chairman of the British India Steam Navigation Company, connected Zanzibar with India and Europe by a regular line of mail steamers, was on very friendly terms with the Sultan, who offered to lease his territories to him—an offer which McKinnon could not accept without the aid of the British government, which was not to be obtained. About this

time, Germany was making most strenuous efforts to obtain control of the whole of that part of Africa, and though Britain might well claim prior rights from her connection with Zanzibar and the lakes, the indifference of the British government might have left Germany in possession of the whole field, but ultimately, in 1890, an agreement was come to, by which the lake region was included in the British sphere. About 1886, along with a few congenial friends, Sir William McKinnon formed a company, entitled the British East Africa Association, for the administration of the territories which Britain had obtained in that part of Africa. For this a royal charter was obtained in 1888, and the headquarters of the company were fixed at the port of Mombasa. Uganda was reached in 1890, and in accordance with the Anglo-German agreement of that year, the company's flag was displayed. But this was the time when the affairs of Uganda were in utter confusion (as we have seen) and its future was extremely uncertain.

*Post tenebras lux.* We can but glance at a most interesting chapter of the history. Captain Lugard was sent by the company with a small force to grapple with the Uganda disorders and endeavor to settle the affairs of the country. He accomplished his object with consummate skill and most remarkable success. The country was thoroughly pacified. But the resources of the company were now exhausted, and without aid from the British government they were helpless. In particular they were unable to construct a light railway of 500 miles between Uganda and Mombasa, which was deemed indispensable to the successful administration of the country. The government would do nothing, and the evacuation of Uganda seemed imminent. But by this time the missionaries were reaping a great harvest, public opinion was wonderfully roused, and the pressure on the government compelled them to yield. Sir Gerald Porter was sent out to report on the state of things. In June, 1894, it was announced in Parliament that the government had resolved to retain Uganda, and to administer it as a protectorate under a commissioner.

So much, then, for the modern partition of Africa. It may be asked, what right had these European powers to seize on the property of the native tribes, and bring them into a state of subjection? Was this an honest, a defensible transaction?

It was the opinion of Dr. Livingstone that mere occupation

did not constitute a valid title to a country, unless the people occupying it were really cultivating its soil and doing something to develop its resources. It can hardly be said that the nations of Africa were doing that. Moreover, the slave trade was rampant in many places and attended by unutterable horrors. And most of the chiefs exercised their authority with abominable tyranny and cruelty. Further, European occupation has been in almost all cases the result of treaties with native chiefs, although these chiefs may often have been ignorant of what the treaties really meant. Any transactions of this kind should be carried out with great forbearance and generous consideration of the reasonable claims and even prejudices of the natives. But here is where many have failed. Europeans, ignorant of the native character, and forgetful of their special circumstances and claims, have often carried things with a high hand, and treated the natives whose country they were occupying with harshness and cruelty. The natives have been goaded to rebellion, when tact and consideration would have made them friends. With honorable exceptions, Europeans have used the airs and arrogance of a superior race and treated the natives with supercilious contempt. How different from Livingstone and his three requisites for gaining influence with the natives—good principles, good manners, and good conduct !

On the other hand, we may reasonably expect that the European protectorates will issue in great good to the Dark Continent. Already we are able to point hopefully to first fruits. The slave trade was the great open sore of Africa, which caused the benediction of Livingstone to fall on "whosoever—American, English, or Turk—would help to heal it." And, thank God, the slave trade has been powerfully checked; although, owing to the vastness of the country, and the fewness and smallness of the European settlements, it has not yet been obliterated. We may reasonably cherish the hope that as time passes on it will be hemmed in within narrower and narrower limits, and at length disappear. No European state will be worthy of its position if it does not strive to its very utmost to put an end to this infamous evil.

Further, in the Lake region especially, we can point to many other excellent results of the protectorate. The country is now orderly and peaceable, its resources are being developed, and its

missionary operations have been attended with singular success. The lives of Bishop Hannington and Alexander Mackay show the early difficulties and tragic history of the operations of the Church Missionary Society in Uganda. Recent accounts tell of missionary triumph. From statements issued by that society it appears that in Ugand., at the end of 1896, there were 300 churches, 5,000 baptized adults, 15,000 in preparation, and 23,000 readers of "the first reading-book." Reading-books are in great demand, and it is reckoned that there are 100,000 who seem to be on the way to profess Christianity. Beyond Uganda openings for the Gospel are presenting themselves on every side. It was only in 1875 that Stanley first called for a mission in Uganda; so late as 1885 the mission seemed doomed to destruction when Bishop Hannington was murdered and the native converts tortured to death; now, even the resources of the Church Missionary Society are unable to keep pace with the marvellous expansion of the work and the crowds of converts and enquirers that are pouring in.

Livingstone's peculiar field, the neighborhood of Lake Nyassa, is now a separate protectorate, administered under the British government by a commissioner. During his six years of office Sir Harry Johnston has done his work admirably. The results of his administration are presented in his reports to the British government, and likewise in the book which has just been published, entitled *British Central Africa* (Methuen, 1897). Sir Harry has not only been of great service in difficult dealings with the Portuguese and the Germans, but he has thrown himself with the greatest ardor into his special work, and lost sight of no interest bearing on the prosperity of the country. Happily peace now reigns for the most part over Nyassaland, although there are some, and one tribe in particular, whose voice is still for war. But generally the natives are becoming more and more friendly to the British government, and more and more sensible of the benefits it brings. Some of the native tribes of Nyassaland are superior to the ordinary negro, show themselves quick and clever in some kinds of work, particularly telegraphy, and give promise of carrying out civilized ways of living with considerable success. And it is in the hands of the natives that the country must continue in the future. Livingstone's idea of white colonies cannot be carried into effect to any considerable extent, for though some

healthy men have, with great care, kept their health for years, and though the high portions of the country are fairly habitable by the white man, yet it is the low grounds that are most fertile, and one of the benefits of the freedom from fighting that is becoming prevalent is that the natives are leaving the barren heights to which they have been accustomed to resort for protection, and bringing the fertile lowlands into cultivation. Uganda seems to be more promising for colonization than Nyassaland.

The population of Nyassaland is estimated at about 800,000; the white population is 289. Of these 118 are Scotch, 109 English, 5 Irish, 21 South Africans, 13 Germans, and the rest of various nationalities. On the Lower Shiré and Zambesi there are nearly twenty steamers; on the Upper Shiré and Lake Nyassa there are three steamers and many boats. There are about twenty post-offices in the protectorate. The value of the year's trade from April 1, 1895, to March 30, 1896, was £102,428.

We have before us reports from all the chief missions in the protectorate, full of interest and encouragement. Want of space prevents us from adverting to these in detail; but we may briefly note the summary of their results as given by Sir Harry Johnston, the more especially because he has never been an indiscriminate admirer of mission work in its higher aspects.

Of the Universities Mission (the first in the country) he remarks that since its return to the mainland in 1882 it has been greatly tried by its having to deal with the Yao people, who have been exceedingly hostile to us, and from its having placed its headquarters on the island of Lacoma, intended to be a sort of modern Iona, but found to be very unhealthy. They have another station at Kolakola, and besides European agents, male and female, employ many native assistants, chiefly in their numerous schools. They also train natives as painters, carpenters, masons, etc., and several of these find employment at Zomba, where the headquarters of the protectorate administration are situated.

The Livingstonia Mission of the Free Church of Scotland came next in order. In 1875, it sent out Dr. Robert Laws, an admirable missionary, who is now next to the oldest pioneer in the country. Its educational, industrial, medical, and missionary work has been highly successful. It has done much service in translation. "It has prospered," says Sir Harry, "almost more

than any other mission in the country as regards development and the success of its teaching."

The Blantyre Mission of the Church of Scotland, in the Shiré Highlands, was begun in 1876. It owns a handsome church, built wholly by natives. It, too, has been very helpful in translation. It is strong in educational and industrial work, and prints two English monthly magazines and one native paper.

There are some smaller missions at work in Nyassaland on similar lines and with encouraging results. Lake Tanganyika was occupied in 1877 by the London Missionary Society. The early history of that mission was one of grievous calamity, through ill health, death, fires, and accidents. The mission here too has taken root, and is bearing fruit that amply encourages the workers, and shows that its many pioneer sacrifices have not been in vain. "On the whole," says Sir Harry, "I can say of all mission-work in British Central Africa that it has only to tell the plain truth, and nothing but the truth, to secure sympathy and support."

It is not merely the fact that civilization and Christianity have been firmly established in the Lake region that calls for congratulation, but that the capacity of the African to receive these influences and benefit by them has been amply proved. If only the European powers, and those somewhat suspicious bodies which we call "Chartered Companies," would realize their responsibilities, and devote their energies not to the mere accumulation of wealth, but to the moral and intellectual elevation of the natives, we might cherish a lively hope of bright days for Africa.

"Find Livingstone," was not spoken by the editor of *The New York Herald* in vain. Stanley, converted into an explorer, gave an impetus to Livingstone's projects that has carried them to completion; and the visions that filled his imagination when he discovered Lake Nyassa, once so cruelly frustrated, now bid fair to be realized.

W. GARDEN BLAIKIE.